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Los Angeles Herald.

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(Written for the HERALD.)

A NEW YEAR'S DINNER,

BY J. EPPINGTON.

The Mystery of Toffelmeir's Station.

It was in the autumn 18—that a middle-aged man, was slowly walking up and down in the dining room of Toffelmeir's Station. He had apparently finished his repast, although it was not yet five o'clock, and the descending sun shone bright and warm through the windows, from which there was a view of the pastoral landscape of Los Angeles Valley. To the north the view was bounded by the majestic Coast-range, whose summits veiled in clouds, or exhibiting awful forms, seen and lost again, as the partial vapors rolled away, were sometimes bare and gleamed through the blue tinge of air, and sometimes crowned with forest of gloomy oak, that swayed toward the base. The California winter, already setting in, and the roses, ravines, and ditches, contrasted strangely with the soft green of the pastures that hung upon its skirts, among whose rocks and herbs, and small oases, the eye after having scaled the cliff above delighted to repose. To the East, almost lost in the mists of distance, the valley was bounded by the hills of San Juan Capistrano. To the South the vision was obstructed by what is known as "Domínguez Hill," over whose brow the lofty peaks of Santa Catalina thirty miles away, shone in the evening sun like spires of burnished gold, or the far famed minarets of Constantinople; or the West, the valley was bounded by the waters of the Pacific. The Station was formerly situated near the Tejeras, or point of intersection of three ranchos, San Antonio, San Pedro, and Tejeras, about ten miles from Los Angeles, and an equal distance from Wilmington. The stage road from one town to the other passed by the door, and for years Gen. —— had his hostelry established here. Mr. Toffelmeir an old Californian kept his station, and it was noted far and near for the hospitality of the landlord, the beauty of his daughter, and the good cheer dispensed by both to man and beast. Here the black-eyed sons and daughters of the valley were wont to "chase the birds with flying feet," or revel in the voluptuousness of the Spanish Rodeo, and on such occasions Prof. A. discoursed sweet music from a cracked guitar, with as much gusto as did Gottschalk, when he had the world for an audience. But at the time of which we write, the rattling diligencia had been replaced by the commodious four-wheeled and the glory of the Station had forever departed. Clara the daughter of the keeper were scattered and gone, and the Station itself had been purchased by a gentleman, removed and being fitted up as a dwelling house for the families of his son and himself. The son had been left in charge during the absence of his father, who was to bring the families from the town of S. R. a few miles north of San Francisco. The members who were residents, and who were to be, will introduce to the readers as follows: Don Santiago Torres, who at an early day, had taken up his residence near where the present village of Compton now stands, was in the prime of life, a joyful hearty fellow, who enjoyed a good joke but a good dinner more. His family consisted of his wife, Dofia Maria, a sedate matronly lady, her daughter, who inherited her mother's disposition. Several years previous to the opening of our story, she had married a young Englishman, a roistering blade, whose disposition was in the most perfect harmony with his own. In the year 18—, together these two young gentlemen, under the terror of the neighborhood in which they lived, and the mysterious disappearance of turkeys and chickens, the want of lacteal fluid on the part of neighbor Jones cow after a dark night, was sure to follow by Sunday jolly dinners, over which one or the other of these worthies presided with a sense of nonchalance that would have done justice, to Lord Dundreary, or Mark Twain. Don Felipe Torres, a younger brother of Don Santiago and the hero of our story, was a tall, broad shouldered, well built man, about thirty-five years of age, in whose open countenance and well defined features, there was a look of kindness and honesty, that stamped him as one of nature's noblemen. Although fortune had hitherto withheld her smile, he had a few years before, chosen a worthy helpmate, and together they had pursued the winding, tortuous road that leads to competence, if not to affluence. Together they had stemmed the rushing streams and rocky gorges of life, and together they had chosen to cast their lot in the valley of Los Angeles, over whose parched summits, the snow capped summits of the sierras kept silent watch and ward. It lacked but two days of New Year, and as Don Felipe grew slow to and fro in the vicinity of the old station, there was a look of deep thought upon his brow, and a close observer, would have known that peculiar thoughts were passing in his mind. No, no, he would mutter, and again he would exclaim, now, there would be nothing wrong in it, and taking his hat he passed into the open air. The two young men whom we have already introduced to the reader, as son, and son-in-law respectively, of Don Santiago Torres, Juan Torres, and George Henderson, were closely engaged in conversation in the private apartment of Don Juan the day after the opening of our story. It was evident from their earnest manner of speaking, and from the appearances of caution with which the conversation was carried on, that the subject was not a general one. It was a cold rainy day, and a bright fire was burning in the stone old fashioned fire-place, and

the heavy curtains cast a gloom as of twilight over the apartment, but the fire as it blazed up, over and over, revealed the features of the two young men. At such times the serio-comic expression would have disclosed the fact that their subject was within a mischievous one, and the low suppressed laughter, indicated that their spirits were not in union with the elements without.

"George," said Don Juan, going to the window and looking out, "I am afraid we will have a bad night for it, the indications are decidedly black, and there is a bank of fog setting in over the plains from the old Pacific that looks as though our night would be cut with a knife." "Hush!"

the reply, "you are always borrowing trouble. You will find my way to the old station if the night was dark as Egypt; come light a cigar and compose your nerves for an adventure, which, if successful, will prove the 'coup de main' of your adventurous existence, and will cause Don Felipe to forever taboo the north corner of the station as a— Hush, mother is in the room adjoining, and if she but dreamed of our plot, all the powers of earth could not save us. Your thoughtlessness will yet ruin the scheme. There, there, that will do. Hereafter I will be as cunning as a serpent, and as dumb as a mummy. Very well, replied Don Juan, I can trust you as far as I can see, so pile a little more wood on that fire, and I will help myself to one of your steamer regulars and devote the remainder of the evening to preventing you from forgetting yourself. By the way, it will be dark early to-night, and we must have Old Major hitched up on time. Yes, I'll look out for that, said George, and if any remarks are made at table, we must convey the idea that we are to call at Mr. C.'s. Oh yes, no doubt. Mother will smell mice, for she is always on the alert to find out something, but do hope we can dupe her this time, for when there goes the dinner bell, all the planariae and hungry work I feel as though I could just to a hearty meal. Just the same with me, said George. I am too excited to enjoy the most epicurean repast. With these remarks they entered the dining room where the rest of the family were seated at table.

Don Felipe had for a number of years been accustomed to indulge in a New Year's dinner, but the circumstances in which he now found himself placed were diametrically opposed to the usual repast. The thoughts that were passing in his mind, as he went into the open air, were as to whether or not, he should forego the accustomed meal. Although he had not obtained a plump gobbler, Providence had enabled him to obtain a fine young goose. But how to prepare to meet all with the other concomitants for a New Year's dinner, was a subject of deep study. Enjoying as he was all the pleasures of a grass widower, he was competent to acknowledge the deficiency of his education in the art culinary. The taste for a good meal had become a confirmed habit, and after many doubts and misgivings as to the propriety of the step, he had decided to ask his sister-in-law to prepare the goose and invite the entire family to partake thereof. With this object in view, he had visited her in the morning, obtained her consent, and extended the invitation. Returning, he had placed his home in order, disposed of his bird by hanging it on the north corner of the station. He had just completed his arrangements, when Don Juan and George Henderson rode by with a cheerful good morning. They passed on and Don Felipe entered upon the labors of the day.

Juan, said his mother after dinner, don Felipe has extended an invitation to us all to dine at the old station tomorrow, and as he desired me to prepare the meal, I would like to have you carry me up early in the morning. Very well, he replied, I will do it with pleasure, for a New Year's dinner is an especial weakness of mine, and to obtain it I would forego even the pleasure of a hunt, which George and I have been planning. So whenever you are ready let me know, I will await your pleasure.

He told his mother, he had secured a specimen of a mysterious disappearance of a bird, which he had secured for a New Year's dinner. He had secured the bird, he said, by hanging it on the north corner of the station, in the open air, the day before; but during the night the coyotes, those restless robbers of the plains, had succeeded in carrying it away; and he described in an eloquent manner, his theory of the differing George sympathized with him, and as other members of the family had now gathered around, many were the speculations as to the mysterious disappearance. Don Felipe maintaining his firm belief in the theory of Coyotes. All expectations of a dinner were fast disappearing, when George informed them of the good fortune that had attended his humble efforts, and the entire family pressed Don Felipe to join them in a New Year's feast. With considerable reluctance he consented, and at 4 o'clock took his place as guest, when he had expected to enact the role of host. We have not lingered in the details of our story, and the reader shall not now be worried by a relation of events.

The dinner passed off pleasantly, both Don Juan and George insisting upon a liberal supply for the palate of Don Felipe, whom they would frequently ask, "what do you think of the bird?" In response replying, "itis very good, but I do not think it is quite up to the one the Coopers lunched off of last night?" The question which the question was asked at last elicited a reproof from Dofia Maria, whose idea of table etiquette were exceedingly shocked by the persistent efforts of the young men to quiz Don Felipe. The last delicacy had been tasted, their appetites entirely satisfied, when Don Juan informed Don Felipe, the goose was his that Dofia Maria had effectually "cooked his goose," (no doubt this the origin of the expression) and related in detail the adventure and its denouement, their mishap in getting into the sierra, how, seeing the goose hanging on the north corner of the station, they had planned and enacted the robbery, and convinced him by calling to mind their encounter the night before when on their way to the station, and ended by advising him to be more careful in future about disposing of game.

As he had predicted, it was one of those disagreeable nights that must be seen to be realized. The fog had rolled in, enveloping everything in a darkness so intense, that for a time neither could distinguish the whereabouts of the other, only by the sound of their voices. By degrees becoming more accustomed to the obscurity of night, they found their way to the stable. Quickly mounting, and hitching the horse to the buggy, and supplying themselves with robes, jumped in and were hurried rapidly away in the direction of the old station. For a time neither spoke, and the silence was broken only by the sound of their conveyance. It was with the utmost difficulty that they were able to find the road, which was entirely open, with no fence on either side to guide them. They had accomplished about one half the distance to the old station, when the quick eye of George detected the form a man, and upon nearer approach they recognized the well known features of Don Felipe, who was evidently just returning from Compton. Not wishing to be identified, the lash was vigorously applied and they passed quickly by. The density of the fog and the darkness of the night prevented their recognition.

A narrow escape, said George, after they were out of hearing of the pedestrian. Yes, was the reply, we must drive around to the west of the station, for it would not do to that gauntlet.

To the reader, as son, and son-in-law respectively, of Don Santiago Torres, Juan Torres, and George Henderson, were closely engaged in conversation in the private apartment of Don Juan the day after the opening of our story. It was evident from their earnest manner of speaking, and from the appearances of caution with which the conversation was carried on, that the subject was not a general one. It was a cold rainy day, and a bright fire was burning in the stone old fashioned fire-place, and

in permitting you to be able to wish your friends, as I now wish you, a Happy New Year.

BUSINESS CARDS.

J. G. JACKSON

Keeps all kinds of

Lumber, Shingles, Laths,

DOORS, WINDOWS, BLINDS,

Posts, Shakes,

PLASTERED PARIS,

CEMENT AND HAIR.

CORNER OF

Alameda and First Streets.

no2-imp

PERRY, WOODWORTH & CO.,

LUMBER YARDS

NO. 70 COMMERCIAL ST.

Keep constantly on hand a full assortment of LUMBER, DOORS, SASH, BUILDINGS, BLINDS, TURNED AND SAWN WOOD, ALL kinds of mill work done to order. 002-imp

GRIFFITH, LYNCH & CO.

DEALERS IN LUMBER.

CORNER FIRST AND ALAMEDA STS.

Mill Work of all Kinds,

SUCH AS—

DOORS, SASH, BLINDS, ETC., ETC.

no2-imp

LOS ANGELES SODA WORKS,

NO. 15 ALISO STREET.

HENRY W. STOLL, PROPRIETOR.

Supplies Bar rooms and private families with the purest and best.

SODA AND SARSAPARILLA,

Delivered to any part of the city. 002-imp

Eight Mile House.

MRS. DONALDSON, OF THE EIGHT MILE HOUSE, COVENANT PASS, announces that she will receive a few gentlemen and unbroken as though they had not been engaged in one of those contests with which 'tis said the devil tempts us to call at Mr. C.'s. Oh yes, no doubt. Mother will smell mice, for she is always on the alert to find out something, but do hope we can dupe her this time, for when there goes the dinner bell, all the planariae and hungry work I feel as though I could just to a hearty meal. Just the same with me, said George. I am too excited to enjoy the most epicurean repast. With these remarks they entered the dining room where the rest of the family were seated at table.

Don Felipe had for a number of years been accustomed to indulge in a New Year's dinner, but the circumstances in which he now found himself placed were diametrically opposed to the usual repast. The thoughts that were passing in his mind, as he went into the open air, were as to whether or not, he should forego the accustomed meal. Although he had not obtained a plump gobbler, Providence had enabled him to obtain a fine young goose. But how to prepare to meet all with the other concomitants for a New Year's dinner, was a subject of deep study. Enjoying as he was all the pleasures of a grass widower, he was competent to acknowledge the deficiency of his education in the art culinary. The taste for a good meal had become a confirmed habit, and after many doubts and misgivings as to the propriety of the step, he had decided to ask his sister-in-law to prepare the meal, and invite the entire family to partake thereof. With this object in view, he had visited her in the morning, obtained her consent, and extended the invitation. Returning, he had placed his home in order, disposed of his bird by hanging it on the north corner of the station. The quarry was exceedingly shy, but his skill as a Nimrod at last enabled him to bag a fine specimen of the game. Although a close observer would have said that unless the earliness of the hour deceived him, the ground was as free from game after the leader messenger had been sent among them as it certainly was after the departure of the hunter, but the facts would have contradicted the statement, for a fine goose he certainly had. As the eye produced by the discharge of his piece occasioned the departure of the game he sought, George returned towards the house. Taking a position upon a fence in plain view from the residence of Dr. Torres, he deliberately plucked the bird, and returning placed it carefully away. He had scarcely completed his toilet when he was surprised by the entrance of Dr. Felipe, in whose gloomy expression of countenance he easily detected the disappointment that ranked in his heart. After the usual salutation, Dr. Felipe proceeded to speak of a mysterious disappearance of a bird, which he had secured for a New Year's dinner. He had secured the bird, he said, by hanging it on the north corner of the station, in the open air, the day before; but during the night the coyotes, those restless robbers of the plains, had succeeded in carrying it away; and he described in an eloquent manner, his theory of the differing George sympathized with him, and as other members of the family had now gathered around, many were the speculations as to the mysterious disappearance. Don Felipe maintaining his firm belief in the theory of Coyotes. All expectations of a dinner were fast disappearing, when George informed them of the good fortune that had attended his humble efforts, and the entire family pressed Don Felipe to join them in a New Year's feast. With considerable reluctance he consented, and at 4 o'clock took his place as guest, when he had expected to enact the role of host. We have not lingered in the details of our story, and the reader shall not now be worried by a relation of events.

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Los Angeles Herald.

THURSDAY, JAN. 1, 1874.

The DAILY HERALD has nearly DOUBLE the Circulation of either contemporary paper published in Los Angeles. As an advertising medium it is consequently of DOUBLE their value.

The Advantages of Co-operation.

The HERALD of the 30th contained a brief account of the operations of the San Gabriel Orange Grove Association, a corporation organized under the laws of this State, for no speculative purpose, but solely with a view of securing to its members houses in the gen'l climate of Los Angeles county.

There are thousands of families in the eastern States whose eyes are turned longingly to this land of rich products and luxurious fruits, who yet, from economical reasons, are prevented from casting their lot among us, and there are many here in our city and surrounding villages who have not secured land of their own. It is the attention of these two classes that we wish to direct to the advantages of co-operation, and the flattering success of such enterprises in Southern California leads us to believe that intending settlers only need to know these advantages, and to understand how easily such associations are organized and conducted, to avail themselves of their benefits.

In the first place, it ought to be understood that the settler needs no such amount of land here, as in the Mississippi States. The variety and richness of our products are such that an industrious man can do as well or better with twenty, or at most forty acres of land here, as on one hundred and sixty in Kansas or Iowa. In the culture of the grape, the semi-tropical fruits, and nuts, tobacco, in bee-raising, and numerous other industries that are known to be remunerative, only a small area of land is required. The occupant while making a living for his family, can at the same time be laying the foundation for a future competence, by planting out and caring for his trees, which after a few years' growth will return him a comfortable income.

In getting here, securing land, a d making improvements, the single family meets with many difficulties, the more so that they are strangers. But if several families combine their energies these difficulties vanish to a great extent. It is sometimes troublesome to find a small tract of land, suitable for the purposes of the settler, and supplied with water, at a price within reach, but there are always large tracts that can be bought to advantage. By a combination of capital these tracts can be bought and water for irrigation supplied. The San Gabriel Association secured 3,633 acres of valuable land for \$25,000; water can be brought on the ground at \$10,000 more, making a lot of nearly forty acres cost only \$350. Similar lots, situated by themselves, and bought, as they could be found, will cost all the way from \$1,000 to \$2,500. In buying materials for making improvements, the advantage is also largely with the Association, as it can buy in large quantities from first hands, saving the profits of retailers and the time required to hunt up supplies in small quantities. In the purchase of trees and plants especially, a large saving may be made, and immigrants from the east, can greatly reduce the cost of getting herbs y acting in concert, and having an agent to make a contract with the transportation companies.

Newspaper Jealousy.

The narrow and mistaken policy which seeks to build up one's own locality by a systematic misrepresentation of all others, and which the San Bernardino *Guardian* so forcibly rebukes in its article copied in our columns yesterday, finds a fit champion in the San Diego *Union*. That paper, in its issue of the 31st, ostentatiously advises its subscribers to mail their papers to the East as a means of disseminating information concerning San Diego. An examination of that copy of the *Union*, does not bring to light one single item in reference to the attractions and resources, undeniably great, of San Diego city and county, but does reveal at least two columns of misrepresentations about Los Angeles, full of illiberal spite, and untruthful detraction. Does it never occur to the *Union* that belittling Los Angeles, or Santa Barbara, or San Bernardino, is a positive injury to all Southern California. Eastern people, reading about this country, are apt to class it as a whole, and are inclined to discount what to them seems the extravagant stories of their resources. If they find it constant practice of the papers here to slander every part of the State except their own little district, may they not justly conclude that we are all a set of liars together, and decline to believe anything we may say about the country? We are free to confess that San Diego possesses a better harbor than ours now is, but we believe that by proper management our port can be made all right. The *Union* quotes the *Express* to prove this is not the case, but has not the candor to admit that the latter paper is the organ of a monopoly, interested in perpetuating the tax upon our commerce, and

struggling to defeat every attempt to throw it off.

We are quite willing to acknowledge that San Diego is a growing city, whose future is full of promise, beset with some disadvantages, but nothing that the enterprise of its citizens cannot overcome. We hope to live to see the day that it will be a large and flourishing place, a credit to California, and a center of wealth and population. We are happy to say that Santa Barbara is a beautiful and healthful town, delightful alike to the invalid, and the robust man of business; that its future is assured, and its citizens worthy of the prosperity they have achieved. We have more than once called attention to the rich valley of San Bernardino, and exulted in the unrivaled attractions of its fertile soil and productive mines, and we believe that there is room in this magnificent land of ours, for all these, and a dozen more cities to grow to opulence. Admitting all this, and gladly publishing it to the world, we do not see that Los Angeles is injured thereby. The prosperity of the whole country is her prosperity, and she cannot expect to flourish unless the country all around her is built up and developed. We do not believe that the advancement of this city or of the country will be hastened by telling lies about, or by concealing the truth; hence we have not hesitated to call attention to the defects that exist, and urge their removal. If the entire press of Southern California will join us in this labor, and cast aside their petty local jealousies that cannot endure the improvement of a neighbor, we are certain that the general good will be greatly advanced.

Judge Widney's Report.

The report made by Judge Widney to the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night was received so late that we had no time to examine or comment upon it. The report takes a very hopeful view of the progress of the work on the breakwater, and requests our Senators and representatives in Congress to petition for a survey of the Wilmington Slough, with a view to its improvement in the manner indicated in the report.

We have pointed out heretofore the improbability of securing at an early day a sufficient appropriation to perform such a work, and as the railroad can be extended to Rattlesnake island much more cheaply than the channel can be deepened to the present terminus of the railroad, we do not see why the commerce of Los Angeles should be compelled to wait until the Pacific will also call at San Simeon and San Luis Obispo.

STEAMER GIPSY.
For San Diego and all way ports, carrying OILS, ACIDS, POWDER, etc., not allowed to be carried in passenger steamers, will leave San Francisco.

Freight on OILS, to San Pedro, 50 cents per case.

FOR NEW YORK VIA PANAMA.

Steamers leave San Francisco January 7th and 20th, and Feb. 10th, and 27th, call at Mazatlan, Mazatlan Rio Acapulco, and all second-class ports.

FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

Steamers leave San Francisco JANUARY 14th.

Through Bills of Lading signed, and through tickets sold to all ports on the San Diego route to New York, Europe, Mexico and South America, at San Francisco rates.

PASSAGE.

To New York, cabin.....\$100

To San Francisco, cabin.....\$15

Cabin places at agent's office. For passage to oil

H. MILLER & CO., Agent for Los Angeles County.

New Year's Race Meeting,

AT—

AGRICULTURAL PARK,

LOS ANGELES,

On January 1st, 2d and 3d, 1874.

Clarendon Hotel Purse.

THE PROPRIETORS OF THE

Clarendon Hotel have generously offered a

PURSE OF FIFTY DOLLARS,

To be trotted and run on each of the above

days, to which the lessee, Mr. S. S. MABIN, adds \$50, making a hundred dollar purse each day. The SPEED PROGRAMME will be advertised both in papers and by posters on MONDAY, December 22d.

SPEED PROGRAMME.

JANUARY 1st, 1874.

SECOND DAY—First Race, Trotting, free for all horses in the State that have never started for money. For a purse of \$50, entrance \$5, to go with purse, second horse to save him entrance.

Second Race—Running, half mile dash, free for all except Irene Harding, for a purse of \$25, to save horse to save entrance, catch weights.

JANUARY 2d, 1874.

THIRD DAY—First race, Trotting; three in five, to harness, for horses that have never beaten three minutes for a purse of \$100; \$5 to save horse to save entrance.

Second race, Hurdle, dash of one mile, free for all, to carry 150 pounds over four hurdles, for a purse of \$25; \$5 entrance to go to the purse, \$5 to save horse to save entrance.

All trotting races governed by Turf Congress Rules.

Racing Box open at the Clarendon Hotel up to 7 p. m. December 22d, 1874.

In all of the above races three or more enter and two to start.

W. L. JUSTICK,

Clarendon Hotel, Lessee of Park.

MARRIED.

On last evening, at the United States Hotel, Justice Gray, Wm. Bush to Miss Henrietta Hutton, of Santa Ana township, Los Angeles county.

On last evening, at the United States Hotel, by Justice Gray, Samuel C. Rees, of Arizona, to Miss Hannah J. Paste, of this city.

BORN.

In Bakersfield, December 24th, to the wife of J. T. Bungate, a daughter.

In this city, December 21st, to the wife of Edmond Roth, a son.

NEW TO-DAY.

Merced Theatre.

A grand display of the

Spanish Dramatic Troupe,

On Saturday Evening, Jan. 3d, 1874.

First

GRAND SYMPHONY

Second—A magnificent Drama in three Acts, in verse, entitled

FLORES y PERLAS.

Third—A Graceful Song, entitled

La Polca de las Habaneras en la Zarzuela del juicio final.

ADMISSION:

CHAIRS—\$1.00

GALLERY—50

PRIVATE BOXES—50

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Los Angeles Herald.

THURSDAY.....JAN. 1, 1874.

CITY AND SUBURBS.

At Harris & Jacoby's Cash Store Fresh Garden, Grass and Alatia seed.

At Harris & Jacoby's Cash Store Umbrella at \$1.00 each.

At Harris & Jacoby's Cash Store three pair Diamond-Toe Shaker Socks for \$1.

There will be no paper issued from this office to-morrow.

The County Court adjourned yesterday for the term.

The Library will be closed to-day and this evening.

Mr. M. Dore, the owner of Santa Isabella ranch, in San Luis, is at the Pico.

The schoolmaster is abroad. He was on the street last evening illustrating the royal road to "rithmetic."

Mr. S. G. Circle, of New York city, is at the Pico, and proposes to make his home for the future in Los Angeles.

Four teams left the depot yesterday for San Bernardino; three consigned to B. & A., one assort, was dispatched to Tom Price.

The steamer Orizaba with a heavy freight list and a considerable number of passengers for this city, is expected at San Pedro this evening.

Judge Sepulveda succeeds Judge Widwey to-morrow in the District Court, and Judge O'Melveny takes the former's place in the County Court.

Remember the grand dance at Leek's Hall to-night. It is the last of the holiday dances, and it will doubtless be a "choice affair."

The Santa Barbara *Times* thinks that "it must be interesting to passengers by steamer to have their children classed in the passenger lists, by the Los Angeles Star, as 'cubs.'

The Sabbath School connected with the M. E. Church gave a Festival at the church on Fort street, last night. The young folks enjoyed themselves till a reasonable hour, and the older heads staid a little later to watch and pray while the New Year came in.

Presuming that most of our readers have almanacs about their houses, we refrain from announcing that this is New Year's day, and as we are not particularly disposed, we leave to others the meeting task of elegizing the dead year.

A large lot of magnificent oil paintings will be disposed of at auction by E. W. Noyes, the popular auctioneer, on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 8th and 9th. This will be a good opportunity of securing rare and valuable pictures.

The fine Hall of the Turnverein Society was filled last night with the foremost people of the Society, and everybody enjoyed themselves. A beautiful tree graced the center of the Hall, a bounteous supper was served in elegant style, and managers, participants and all were happy.

The guests of the Pico House were entertained with some excellent music last night. Out in the silver light of the moon, etc., in the court yard, the belles and beaux of this popular house were gathered, by the melting strains, enjoying the balmy air of a December night, such as can be rarely found in any other State in the Union.

The country about Florence has often been represented as too dry and unproductive for farming purposes. Mr. Frank Wilkins of that place showed us a load of squash yesterday, one of which weighed 115 pounds. He has also planted the early Goodrich potato, raised a good crop, and from this see raised a second crop, all during the past year, and without any irrigation. Work is progressing in the ditches for turning the Los Angeles river on this land. By flooding it in winter a good crop is assured, no matter how dry the season.

By reference to our advertising column it will be seen that David Gray, Esq., has leased the Skating Rink and will open it to the public on Saturday next. This news will be hailed with pleasure by all those who delight in healthful and amusing recreation, particularly the young folks. Mr. Gray assures the public that under his management the most perfect order and decorum will be maintained in the hall at all times, and no pains spared to make it agreeable to his patrons.

The Reception given last night by the Los Angeles Social Club was a complete success. The elite of Los Angeles were out in all their glitter and gaiety. The rooms were beautifully decorated, the moveable doors were raised, an evergreen motto appropriate for the occasion was above the doors, and everything was beautified in a very becoming manner. The company was very select, and all were in full dress. Where all graced the occasion, it would be invidious to make reference to particular persons. It is enough to say that this was the ball of the season. Long may the Social Club continue to bind the social elements of Los Angeles together.

Common Council.

The Marshal reported \$1,572 for losses during December. Placed on file.

The petition of Stephen Boushey, asking the council to expose lot 3, block 25, 17 acres, in Hancock's survey, for sale, as he wishes to bore for oil on the place, was granted.

The bill authorizing the city to bond itself for the fulfillment of its railroad contract, was returned by the Mayor, unsigned. He objected because more was asked for than was required for the purpose.

Worham moved that the sum be \$12,500 instead of \$13,000. Lost.

The memorial was carried over the Mayor's objection.

Boudry moved that the vote of the Council, October 24th, 1872, be copied and forwarded with the memorial. Carried.

Merriam was instructed to lay his old oboes where the City Surveyor shall direct.

Giffith, Lynch & Co., were requested to return the scrip which they have on the Street Fund, and receive an order on the Cash Fund.

Mascerol moved that the City Attorney be instructed to begin proceedings against all persons indebted to the city for taxes, services, or other things, and that he be authorized to employ a clerk. Carried.

The Mayor objected to the bill of the Council for \$165 as too high, and because the eyes and noses were not called.

The eyes and noses were called and the Mayor instructed to pay the bill. The committee on widening Alameda street, reported it necessary to pay Mr. Coronel \$800 for his interest, and recommended this be done. After

some opposition the recommendation was adopted.

An open sewer was ordered on Main street.

Petitions recommending Francis Baker, Cristobal Aguilar, and T. H. Eaton, for Janiero, were received, and on motion a ballot was taken.

Messrs. Dockweller, De Celis, Valdez, Gerkins, Mascerol, Beaury and Sabichi, voted for Aguilar; and Messrs. Huber and Workman voted for Eaton. Aguilar was declared elected.

Mr. Huber moved that a special committee be appointed to see that the water company place more hydrants throughout the city, as now the danger from fire is great. Carried. Messrs. Huber, Gerkins and Dockweller were appointed as such committee.

Bills of various parties were received and referred to the finance committee.

Mr. Workman, from the committee on lighting the bridge, reported that all parties whom he had seen asked \$15 per month for services; and he desired the committee continued.

On motion adjourned.

Report on Irrigation.

Capt. Moore, to whom the subject of improving our system of irrigation was referred by the Chamber of Commerce, has submitted the report printed below:

In order to increase the area of irrigation and to improve lands now worthless for want of water, it will require a well-considered and general plan of improvements, embracing the building of dams, creation of reservoirs, and the construction of canals or ditches of masonry or by fluming.

To carry out this plan it will be necessary for the city to borrow a large amount of money, and the way and manner in which it will be paid will require careful consideration as well as legislation. Not less than one hundred thousand dollars will be required in order to commence this work, and a much larger sum will have to be expended before the works are properly completed. This money should be so arranged that parties should pay according to the benefits received from the improvements made.

There is at this time about 5,000 acres of land irrigated from the Los Angeles river. If the ditches which convey the water to the points of distribution were properly made at least double the area now under cultivation could be irrigated.

It costs about one dollar an acre to buy water to irrigate ground during the summer season, and all the money collected, amounting to some four or five thousand dollars, is used in keeping the ditches in order, and in paying janitors. If the ditches were properly made there would be no sand or sediment in them to be removed, and no grass nor weeds would grow in them to impede the flow of the water.

The sand and sediment which are now thrown out of the ditches, making in places unseemly and inconvenient banks, would be deposited over the surface of the ground, and would add to the fertility of the soil.

The water from the direction of the Woolen Mill should irrigate all the land to the west of Main street, and San Joaquin No. 8 should be done away with to the west of Main street, and should be given more to the east of that street, where it runs along the face of the bank, so that it would deposit no sediment.

The construction of ditches and the utilizing of the water which we now have, is the first thing to be considered, but it is of no more importance than the storing of water in reservoirs during the winter months for the purpose of irrigation in the dry season.

On the west side of the river an area of 500 acres might be covered by water, with an average depth of 40 feet, if this amount of storage capacity was needed. On the east side of the river, there are equal facilities for reservoirs, as regards ground, and greater facilities and water for filling them. The grounds for the proposed reservoirs are peculiarly adapted to the purpose.

The places where the dams will be constructed being comparatively narrow gorges through the hills, and the reservoirs would extend back, widening out into broad sheets of water surrounded by steep hills. Such a large area would not be needed for storage, as the capacity of the river would not be able to fill them up in a year.

A reservoir of one hundred acres, with an average depth of 40 feet, would hold 174,240,000 cubic feet of water. This would cover an area of 8,000 acres, six inches deep, with water as the waters of the river, although constant, are limited, and only large accumulations can be made by taking advantage of the rainy season.

The distribution ditches from the reservoirs will have to be made in a most substantial manner, as all the accumulated water of eight or nine months of the year, must be discharged in the space of three or four months. Nothing but strong masonry would withstand the action of such a body of water in the main distributing ditches.

I think that 20,000 acres might be irrigated from the reservoirs, and 5,000 more could be added by properly constructed ditches through the orchards and vineyards now cultivated.

This is an important matter, particularly when we know that without some general plan of improvement the area of irrigation cannot be extended beyond its present limits without ruining the property which now exists.

The land which would be brought under cultivation by these improvements is now comparatively valueless, as far as productivity is concerned; yet the soil is of the best quality, and would soon be worth from one to two hundred dollars per acre if assured of an abundant supply of water.

In carrying out these plans, a careful examination and survey of the country must be had, so that whatever is to be done, shall be done in the right place and shall be a part of a general plan.

These works can be carried on from year to year, until water enough will be stored to irrigate the valley from the mountains to the sea.

The Races To-Day.

The promise of a fine day will bring a large number of our citizens and visitors to the Park to witness the races, gotten up by the proprietors of the Clarendon, and the lessee of the Park.

The first on the programme is trotting race, three or five for horses that have never started for money. The entrance money goes with the purse, and second horse to have entrance money. In this race three horse Don Juan, Bonito, and Harry, will start. Don Juan is the favorite in the pools.

The second race is a half mile dash, free to all except Irene Harding, for a purse of \$50, catch weights. Diamond Nose, Bay Jim, and Captain Jack, are entered for this race. Diamond Nose being the favorite in the pools.

Quite a large number of pools have been sold.

The second day's programme consists of a running dash of one mile for which several entrances have been made, and a race for two-year-olds, one mile and repeat.

The managers are doing their best to make these races attractive, and from the character of the men who have it in hand, the public can rely on everything being well managed. The grounds are in fine condition, the weather promises to be good, the horses are lively goers, and everything looks promising.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Fayette—Ramerio, Juan Valdes, Spadra; S. L. Romero, R. R. Tunspatt, city; H. S. Wilson, El Monte; F. Patreco, A. Cibbs, Wilmington; R. T. Hayes, Japan; Lee Hutt, San Luis Rey; J. A. Hall, Santa Barbara; J. E. Bacon, Rancho Chequil; B. Steele, San Diego; R. W. Conry, Temescal Hot Spring; J. Long, Tan Gabriel; P. Garnier, J. Renel, Eleanor R. Walker, San Bernardino; T. Rowland, W. Gilson, city; R. A. Serrano, San Juan; J. M. Biays, San Bernardino.

Pico—House—F Monga, Riverside; P. Williams, W. K. Pattern, Azusa; T. Cook, S. Arguello, F. Valdez, San Juan; W. Adams San Buenaventura; J. U. Crawford, San Diego; M. J. Thompson, F. M. Summers, Laguna; Dr. P. Everett, Ohio.

Stage Arrivals and Departures—Dec. 30.

TELEGRAPH LINE.

Arrivals—J. H. Lively, W. W. Keller, A. Wilson, Chas Durfee, J. Watson. Departures—J. Cornell, J. Long, S. Collins, Thus Ford.

COAST LINE.

Arrivals—Oliver J. A. Ashmore, Jerry Grady, Thos Dowling. Departures—A. Cornell, T. R. Everett. S. BERNARDINO.

Arrivals—W. J. Muncey, U. Mither, C. Myerstein. Departures—Mr. Summer, J. A. Burkholder, J. Stranahan.

SAN DIEGO.

Arrivals—S. G. Circle, M. J. Dore, C. A. Kennedy, C. C. Chapman, Mr. Dickman. Departures—G. Doubikin, L. U. Utte.

Late Telegrams.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.

Sargent recommends H. R. Reed as Pension Agent, at San Francisco, in place of H. C. Bennett.

Daily mail service is ordered between Salinas City and San Juan.

EASTERN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

Rufus Hatch, Vice President and Managing Director of the Pacific Mail, has fixed the rate of passage from New York to San Francisco at \$100 to \$110 in the cabin, and \$50 in the steerage.

The Pacific Mail Co. has refused to renew its contract with the Union Pacific Railroad Company, whereby the rates of fare between here and San Joaquin No. 8 should be done away with to the west of Main street, and should be given more to the east of that street, where it runs along the face of the bank, so that it would deposit no sediment.

The construction of ditches and the utilizing of the water which we now have, is the first thing to be considered, but it is of no more importance than the storing of water in reservoirs, as regards ground, and greater facilities and water for filling them. The grounds for the proposed reservoirs are peculiarly adapted to the purpose.

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This is an important matter, particularly when we know that without some general plan of improvement the area of irrigation cannot be extended beyond its present limits without ruining the property which now exists.

The amount of water stored will depend upon the size of the ditches leading to them. They should be made large enough to carry a large body of water during heavy rains, as the waters of the river, although constant, are limited, and only large accumulations can be made by taking advantage of the rainy season.

Railroad Troubles over in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Dec. 31.

Railroad troubles appear about over on time to day. Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, Chicago and Cleveland, and Pittsburgh railroad is over. Men went to work under reduction this morning. All passenger and freight trains are now running regularly. A reduction of 10 per cent will take effect on Pennsylvania Central and Alleghany Valley Railroad to-morrow.

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NEW

FOR SALE—TO LET.

I. B. FERGUSON'S
COMMISSION HOUSE

In the Executive Commission House to
go to for Everything You Want.
mod-in

For Sale!

400 ACRES IMPROVED AND
unimproved lands of the finest
quality, 3 miles from the court-house. Cheap
for cash or no commissions to pay. Apply
to J. A. STANLEY, 28 Temple Block, ap-
ply state.

For Sale!

DESIRABLE BUSINESS, SE-
curing my established, requiring little
capital, and paying well, could be
easily started or run up in the east-
ern part of the state. Address "HERALD"
office.

FOR SALE.

92 ACRES ON THE SAN ANTONIO
River to Ranch and the San Antonio River.
Two miles from the city and two
from the river. The land is all arable
and more than the half is under
cultivation. The water is excellent and the
buildings and improvements good. Refer to A. C.
SHAW IN Los Angeles. nov-imp

FOR SALE.

40 ACRES OF LAND ON
the west side of the city, well improved
good house, barn, stable, etc. good
in vineyard, mostly old vines, 600 young
trees mostly from three to six years old;
water from two to six years old; 50
acres of land bearing. This good, terms
easy. Also

FORTY ACRES OF land 1½ miles south of
city, also good house, barn, stable, etc.

HOUSE AND LOT corner of Main and
Fifth streets. House new. Lot 60x100. Also,

THREE LOTS between Fourth and Fifth
streets, also good house, barn, stable, etc.

Inquire of H. EDWARDS, or L. D.

BICKNELL, Room No. 29, Temple Block.
nov-imp

FOR SALE.

THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT IN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

for a very valuable patented invention. The
proprietors have perfected their

PATENT RIGHTS.

and desire to sell as above. For full information,
which is confidential, address

THIS OF WHICH.

LAFAYETTE STORE.

P. N. ROTH & CO.

NO. 45 MAIN STREET.

Wholesale and retail dealer in

Gents' Furnishing Goods,

Provisions, Fine Wines, Liquors, Cigars and
Whiskies.

Farms for Sale!

NEAR NIETOS DEPOT

45 ACRES—FIRST-CLASS FOR

corn or fruit, with wood and good
water. Price, \$1,500.

39 ACRES NEAR THE COL-

LEGE—not in cultivation—one mile
south of the L. N. R. R. \$1,500.

35 ACRES ALL IN CULTIVA-
TION—first-class improved—near
Gallatin—one mile south of L. N. R. R. \$2,500.

80 ACRES FIRST-CLASS, IN
cultivation, with the best artesian
well and reservoir in the country. 4 miles east
of Nietos Depot. \$5,000. Apply to

J. B. HOLLOWAY, Gallatin.

45 ACRES ONE MILE EAST
of Nietos Depot, on the line of the
Railroad. Eighty bushels of corn per acre
was raised last year. There is a
good dwelling house, corn crib, etc.

J. B. HOLLOWAY, Gallatin.

LAND FOR SALE.

LOCATED ABOUT TWO MILES
from the mouth of the San Joaquin River.

A splendid 50-ACRE LOT is offered for
grapes on the most liberal terms. The loca-
tion is very desirable, and the land is in good
condition.

Last year produced a crop of 115 bushels of

corn to the acre. Any one who may desire to
purchase land in this location would do well
to inquire about it and examine this year's

crop, which has not been gathered. The sole
reason for sacrificing this property to local
municipal obligations is to meet the
annual obligation of the town of Nietos, and the balance in one or two
years.

AN 80-ACRE TRACT located on the line of
the San Joaquin River, Mid Springs. This is a
most desirable piece of land, is in a first-rate
condition, and is now producing 100 bushels
of corn, of which are growing 10,000 grape-
vines in a full bearing condition; has a large
convenient DWELLING-HOUSE; all to be
had on easy terms. For further particulars, apply to
P. G. YOUNER, Sparta, or at
HERALD OFFICE.

Los Angeles Woolen Mill
STORE.

SACRISTE, ELLIOTT & CO.

DEALERS IN WOOL, AND MAN-

UFACTURERS OF

All Wool Cassimere,

Tweeds, Flannels, Blankets, etc.

All our goods are PURE WOOL, and war-
ranted as represented. Consumers can

Save 25 to 33 per cent.

by buying direct from us. STORE AT THE
WHITE HOUSE, corner of Los Angeles
and Commercial Streets. nov-imp

F FARMS!
ORCHARD LANDS!

THE FINEST NEW LANDS

In Los Angeles County.

6000 FACILITIES FOR IRRIGATION!

Water furnished to all Desiring It.

GRAIN, CORN AND ALFALFA

GRASSES perfectly adapted to LEMON-
ALMONDS, LIMES, ALMONDS, WALNUTS
AND GRAPES.

The miles from Los Angeles same distance
from Anaheim.

Brought from Los Angeles to Anaheim
through the center of the tract. Well
located neighborhood. Good schools.

Widely known and highly appreciated as

LOS NIETOS TRACT.

5,000 ACRES

Offered for sale on most favorable terms in
tracts.

Title, United States Patent.

INQUIRIES OF

MCLEAN & HARDY,
205 Montgomery Street, San Francisco.

or—

G. W. MORGAN, Los Angeles.

Dr. J. E. FULTON, Los Nietos

nov-imp

EASTERN AND CALIFORNIA

OYSTERS—FRESH BY

steamship, packed up in
over size of the oysters.

GENERAL and LOS ANGELES STA-

BY "JAKE" BAER, formerly with H.

BOULVARD and CHAS. WALDEN,
and GIVE THEM A CALL.

CARRIAGES AND MAFONS.

L. LICHTENBERGER,
(Successor to Roeder & Lichtenberger),

MANUFACTURER OF

Wagons, Buggies, Carriages, Etc.

143, 145 and 147 Main street, Los Angeles,

Very respectfully solicits the patronage of

the public in his line of business. All ve-

hicle built of the BEST MATERIAL.

BLACKSMITH SHOP

Is connected with the establishment, where

all kinds of Blacksmithing will be done to

order.

REPAIRING

Done with dispatch, and with a view of giving

satisfaction to patrons.

All Work Warranted.

not-imp

PAGE & GRAVEL'S

New Carriage Shop.

OUR WORK IS UN-
equalled by any done on the Pa-

cific Coast.

After our experience in the best shops in the

Eastern States, and our experience on this

coast, we are enabled to build what we ad-

vertise.

ALL MATERIALS USED ARE THE BEST

IN THE MARKET AFFORDED.

REPAIRS

Done with dispatch, and with a view of giving

satisfaction to patrons.

not-imp

DOTTER & BRADLEY,

FURNITURE DEALERS,

Successors to Dotter & Lord,

50 MAIN STREET?

DON'T FAIL TO SEE THEIR NEW AND

VARIED STOCK BEFORE YOU PURCHASE

ANYTHING FOR CHRISTMAS.

XXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXX XXXXX

THE PROPRIETOR DESIRES TO

inform the traveling public that this well

known house is

THOROUGHLY

RENOVATED AND REBUILT

THROUGHOUT,

and now offers accommodations equal if not

superior to any other house in Los Angeles.—

SINGLE ROOMS, OR ROOMS IN SUITE.

The Eating Department

will be conducted with especial care;

nov-imp

PICO HOUSE,

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

FIRST CLASS HOTEL,

FOR TRAVELERS AND TOURISTS.

Centrally Located—Frontage on

Three Streets.

The BEST Table.

The BEST Rooms.

The BEST Accommodations.

oc23-imp CHAS. KNOWLTON, Proprietor.

THE BEST! THE BEST!

THE HOWE

SEWING MACHINE

A HEAD:

HIGHEST PREMIUM FOR SEW-

ING AT THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

Gold Medal and Cross of the Legion

of Honor at Paris Exhibition.

The Wilson of Cleveland Received a

Medal of Merit Only.

THE HOWE MACHINE CO'S SEWING MA-

CHEMICALS have been exhibited in the world

Their sales on these machines have

surpassed—sewing the thinnest material and

the heaviest goods with equal facility, and re-

quiring no extra adjusting for uneven thickness.

The Attachments for Hemming, Pelling,

Braiding, Cording, Quilting, Tucking, Binding

and Gathering are of the latest improved pat-

terns, and are superior to those on any other machine.

The HOWE MACHINE CO'S are the STRONG-

EST, EASIEST, and MOST CONVENIENT

in operation. They give no trouble in operating. They are the

oldest established in the world (Mr. Howe

being the original inventor), and are in ad-

vanced stages of improvement and perfe-

ction of mechanism.

H. CAMPBELL,

Agent for Southern California,

16 COMMERCIAL ST.